

Supporting Statement

Elvetham Heath Primary School have tried for several years with significant investment, involving re-turfing and continual top dressing and fertilizer applications to establish a satisfactory sports pitch on these very poor 'heathland' sandy soils without success. The current patchy grass pitch does not provide a safe play environment for the pupils and there is a critical need to improve this situation.

The benefits of such a sandy soil is that minimal excavations and lorry movements would be required to prepare and surface this area and there are no additional drainage works or requirements. There would be no additional fencing and just minimal marker posts, no extended community use or lighting is envisaged in the future. The artificial surfaces now are a very good colour match to real grass so visually there will be no impact.